

**Department for Transport  
London**

Dear Chair of the Environment Committee

It has come to our notice that your area has two serious problems: congestion and pollution caused by traffic, especially around the start and end of the school day.

**Congestion is a serious problem for the following reasons:**

- It causes more pollution as vehicles wait in traffic for longer and longer
- It wastes lots of time and means people have to get up even earlier
- It causes stress and anxiety
- It costs money because people are not doing anything useful when sat in traffic
- It makes your area less pleasant and deters tourists and visitors

**Pollution is a problem because:**

- It adds to climate change which will be a big problem for children as they grow older
- It causes breathing problems for young children and the old, especially during hot summer months
- It makes your area less pleasant for everyone which means people spend less money here!

This week, I want the Environment Committee to find out the extent of the problem and report back. Then I would like you to come up with a set of proposals for tackling the problem in your area. Finally, I want you to plan a campaign to persuade local people to do their bit in solving the problem. You can start this campaign with a visit to a school assembly.

Good luck, and I look forward to hearing your plans.

Best wishes

*Connie Gestion*

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